



NEWS RELEASE

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Huntsman Names Executive Director for Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH—Governor-elect Jon Huntsman, Jr. today named Michele Christiansen as the Executive Director of the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice. Ms. Christiansen currently serves as an Assistant U.S. Attorney.

“We are thrilled with Michele’s willingness to lend her considerable talent and experience to an office as important to Utah as the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice. The legal community as well as all citizens will benefit from Michele’s public service,” Governor-elect Huntsman said.

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BACKGROUND

Michele Christiansen attended Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin and graduated *cum laude* with a Bachelor of Arts degree in history in 1992. After graduation, she attended the University of Utah College of Law and received her Juris Doctorate degree in 1995. She was a William H. Leary scholar and served as a member of the Law Review while attending law school. Michele clerked for the Honorable Tena Campbell, United States District Court Judge for the District of Utah from 1995-1996. After clerking for Judge Campbell, she worked as an associate attorney for the law firm of Parsons Behle & Latimer in the Natural Resources and Litigation Departments for two years. In 1998, Michele moved to the United States Attorney’s Office to take a position as an Assistant United States Attorney. For nearly five years, Michele has prosecuted cases involving crimes against children and other violent crime cases for the U.S. Attorney’s Office. She has also served as a volunteer Guardian *ad litem* for the Administrative Office of the Courts since 1996, currently volunteers as a judge *pro tempore* for Salt Lake City Justice Court, and also sits on the Utah State Bar’s Ethics and Discipline Committee.

Michele is married to Erik A. Christiansen and they have two daughters, Adison and Cate.